

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Visconti et al.

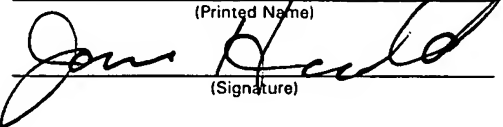
Title: DISPOSABLE SURGICAL
SUCTION/IRRIGATION
TRUMPET VALVE TUBE
CASSETTE

Prior Application No.: 09/574,164

Prior Application Filing Date: 18 May 2000

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING
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JANE HEROLD
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(Signature)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment to the application.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: